

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 14, and 16-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Claims 1 and 14 are amended, and claims 3 and 15 are canceled.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

The applicant acknowledges that claims 2-5, 15, and 17-20 contain allowable subject matter. Additionally, the claims are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and inner intervening claims.

II. Claim rejections under 35 U.S. C . §102(b)

Claims 1, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese patent 04-053912 to Togashi (hereinafter "Togashi"). The office action asserts that Togashi discloses (in-part) a method and an apparatus of an alignment adjustment device. We respectfully traverse the rejection.

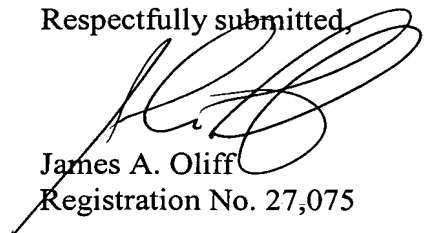
Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3. Thus, this rejection is made moot by this amendment. Dependent claims 2, and 4-5 depend either directly, or indirectly, from independent claim 1 are, therefore, in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

The allowable subject matter of dependent claim 15 has been incorporated into independent claim 14. Therefore, the rejection is made moot by this amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-2, 4-5, 14 and 16-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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